

VZCZCXRO0843
PP RUEHAG RUEHDF RUEHIK RUEHLZ
DE RUEHMD #1976 2161411
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 041411Z AUG 06
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0451
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY 3900
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY 5967
RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY 0523
RUEHLA/AMCONSUL BARCELONA PRIORITY 2009
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0192

UNCLAS MADRID 001976

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SENSITIVE
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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [EAID](#) [PREF](#) [SMIG](#) [UNGA](#) [SP](#)
SUBJECT: SPAIN MAY SUPPORT SOME FORM OF UN MIGRATION BODY

REF: STATE 122513

(SBU) Poloff delivered reftel demarche to Sub-Director General for the United Nations Juan Manuel Gonzalez de Linares Palou on July 31. Palou told Emboff that the Spanish delegation clearly understands the U.S. position, but that Spain does see a role for the UN in this arena. Migration is a very important issue for Spain, given its recent problems in North Africa and the Canaries. Spain agrees that any international forum on the subject risks becoming a do-nothing bureaucracy or worse, but it is their hope that whatever results from the High Level Dialogue could be something small with very little or no cost. Spain's main concern is that there be some sort of follow-up to the HLD, in whatever form it may take. In any case, de Linares said that the Spanish delegation will wait and see whether the dialogue is productive before making a final decision, this being the first meeting of its kind.

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